THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 20th January 1950.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Formation of the Andhra Province.

* 105-A *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government have sent their final report to the Government of India about the formation of the Andhra Province and, if so, on what date, and whether the Government will lay a copy of the report on the table of the House;

(*b*) whether the Leader of the House had given an assurance on the 17th November 1949 that the Council would be consulted with regard to the formation of the Andhra Province before the report was finally sent to the Government of India;

(*c*) whether the Government will publish the first communication as well as the communication received from the Government of India, a summary of which has been given in the *Indian Express* of 21st December 1949; and lay the same on the table of the House;

(*d*) whether the Government are aware that the Government of India were against the inclusion of the three disputed taluks of Bellary district, namely, Alur, Adoni and Rayadrug into the Andhra Province as it would not be acceptable either to the population of the area concerned or to the Karnatak Provincial Congress Committee;

(*e*) whether the Government of India had suggested to this Government and appointed Mr. C. M Agarwalla, Chief Justice of the Patna High Court, as one-man boundary commission to demarcate with regard to the Bellary district;

(*f*) whether the Government of Madras suggested that there need be no such appointment at all and, if so, the reasons therefor;

(*g*) whether this Government have received protests and written representations about the inclusion of the three disputed taluks of Alur, Adoni and Rayadrug within the jurisdiction of the Andhra Province;

(*h*) whether this Government have submitted the said written representations with the annexures attached to them to the Government of India along with its final report for due consideration before arriving at a final decision with regard to the areas to be comprised in the Andhra Province; and

(*i*) whether the summary of the communication of the Government of India to this Government, given in the *Indian Express* of 21st December 1949, is correct and, if so, why this Government have thought fit to act against the views of the Government of India?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier) :—" (*a*) This Government's final report to the Government of India regarding the formation of the Andhra Province was despatched on the 4th January 1950.

" As all the correspondence between the two Governments on this question is 'strictly confidential', the Government regret that they cannot lay a copy of their report on the table of the House.

"(*b*) Yes, Sir.

"(*c*) *to* (*f*) Please see the latter part of the answer to clause (*a*).

" (*g*) The Government have received representations from both sides regarding the inclusion of these three taluks in the Andhra Province. They do not agree that there is any substantial issue involved in respect of these taluks.

" (*h*) The Government of India are quite aware of these representations and of the views of this Government thereon.

" (*i*) As regards the contents of the Government of India's letter to this Government, the answer to clause (*a*) stands.

" As for the latter part of this question, this Government and the Government of India have exchanged views on several issues connected with the formation of the Andhra Province, and the decision rests with the latter Government."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, if these reports are confidential, how is it that the *Indian Express* was able to get a copy or a summary of their contents and publish the same in its issue of 21st December 1949?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Government cannot obviously say how the correspondent of the *Indian Express* got a summary of the reports, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I and the House would like to hear the Hon. Premier, who is present in the House, answering the question."

THE HON. DR. T S S. RAJAN :—" Sir, I have taken the responsibility of answering on behalf of the Hon. Premier and I don't think that the House would be displeased to hear my answering for him. If I am so unpleasant . . ." (Laughter.)

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" If the answers are correct, we do not mind who answers the question, Sir."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know what is the final recommendation of the Government regarding these three taluks and about the Bellary district as a whole?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I have said, Sir, that this is part of the document to which I have referred in my answer. I cannot give my answer piecemeal, because the whole thing relates to the division of the Andhra Province and these taluks which have been referred to have also been included in that report."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I take it, Sir, that the Government, when they introduced a schedule including these three taluks in the Resolution relating to the formation of a separate High Court for the Andhra Province, they did come to the decision that these three taluks should form part of the Andhra Province? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I am not in a position to give the answer definitely, because, as I have said in my original answer, the whole report is confidential and it cannot be disclosed to the House, Sir."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Did not the Hon. Minister answer on the last occasion that this Government have recommended to the Government of India that these three taluks should be included in the Andhra Province? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Because they are situated in the undisputed Telugu areas, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I suggest that he has forgotten it? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not see any point in asking a question like this."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know, Sir, when these correspondence which are confidential, will be placed on the table of the House? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" When the Government of India have informed us of their final decision in the matter."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Have the Government received any reply to their recommendations from the Government of India? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know, Sir, when the Andhra Province is going to be constituted, if it is to be constituted at all? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" This is a matter that should be referred to an astrologer, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have forwarded all the protests and all the written representations regarding these taluks to the Government of India? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is there any astrologer among the Ministers who could tell us about it, Sir? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Hon. Leader of the Opposition may supply one."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" Hon. Members are following a wrong line altogether. What the point they want is this. Have the Government any information about the news that was published in the newspapers recently that the Andhra Province question has been dropped and, if so, how far is it correct? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" We have no official information about it, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Have the Government reminded the Government of India when a reply could be received, in view of the fact that the D-Day is nearing, which fact they themselves have recognized? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" In reply to the Government of India's correspondence on the subject, we have sent our report and we are awaiting further communication from them, Sir."

Civil and Criminal jurisdiction of a portion of the Sirugappa taluk.

* 105-B *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any portion of Siruguppa taluk has been incorporated into the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Munsif-Magistrate's Court at Adoni and, if so, which portion of the taluk;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the said area was within the jurisdiction of the Bellary District Munsif's Court and Subdivisional Magistrate's Court till 31st December 1949;

(*c*) what the reasons are that induced the Government to make the change of jurisdiction;

(*d*) whether the Government have received representations from the people of Sirugappa taluk protesting against the change; and

(*e*) whether the Government have taken any action thereon and, if so, to what effect?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) Yes. The portion of Sirugappa taluk nearest to Adoni, comprising of villages within the limits of Hachcholi Police station.

" (*b*) Yes.

" (*c*) With the introduction of the Scheme of Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive, an additional post of District Munsif-cum-Subdivisional Magistrate was created in the district with headquarters at Adoni and hence a re-distribution among the Courts of District Munsif-cum-Subdivisional Magistrates was effected. The portion of Siruguppa taluk which is nearest to Adoni has been attached to the jurisdiction of the new court.

" (*d*) Yes.